

Remarks

Claim 1 has been amended to correct minor typographical errors and to address the informalities noted by the Examiner in the Final Office Action, all without the intention of changing the scope of the claimed invention. No claims have been cancelled or newly added. Support for the instant amendments may be found throughout the embodiments disclosed in the as-filed Specification. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-11, 14, 15, 21 and 25 are pending.

Applicants submit that the entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116, as the claim changes: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not require any further consideration as the claim changes employ limitations from originally-filed dependent claims that should have already been searched; and (c) places the application in better form for an Appeal, should an Appeal be necessary.

Claim Informalities

Claims 1-11, 14, 15, 21 and 25 were objected to for informalities. In particular, the Examiner alleges that the recitation of "a packet" in claim 1, line 6, is unclear as to whether Applicants meant to refer back to the recitation of "a packet" in line 2, or meant to refer to the recitation of "a plurality of packets" in line 3. Applicants disagree with the propriety of this objection. However, solely in an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended the recitation of "a packet" in claim 1, line 6 to read "the packet."

Applicants submit that it is clear from the language and the context of the claim limitation that "the packet" in claim 1, line 6 (as amended) refers back to the "... packet sent from an information providing terminal ..." in line 2. Indeed, claim 1 requires that the "means ... for adding information to the packet" be "***within said information providing terminal.***" [emphasis added]. By contrast, the "plurality of packets" in line 3 are only generated after the packet has been ***sent from*** the information providing terminal.

Accordingly, Applicants earnestly request the withdrawal of the objection to claims 1-11, 14, 15, 21 and 25.

Conclusion

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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